

The Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS), Bethesda, MD is soliciting competitive bids in order to award a contract. This contract will be for a Distance Learning Platform (DLP) to assist in developing courses and delivering academic instruction to students enrolled in the new Graduate School of Nursing's Ph.D. program. The DLP minimum procurement requirements are: (1) must have the capability of searching by feature across content of the entire platform; (2) must alert students and faculty to new mail, messages, course changes and critical news; (3) must have flexibility in testing capability and an automatic and manual save/answer feature during testing to protect testing data from power surges or losses; (4) must have the ability to compile content for ease in course content, copy and transfer; (5) must have the ability for faculty to download papers, projects, assignments, and review/enter grade on the same screen as well as e-mail a response to the student without having to enter and exit various parts of the program; (6) regarding synchronous learning, must have the ability to import text, slide or image during a lecture or chat and allow faculty to highlight, circle or mark for emphasis. (7) must be well established with an extensive history of delivering distance learning instruction from a university setting; (8) must be able to host the DLP and provide 24/7 customer service to the GSN student and faculty population; (9) must provide troubleshooting/technical support for the entire DLP including when subcontractors are used to provide DLP component parts to meet required specifications. The aforementioned minimum procurement requirements will be utilized as evaluation criteria in determining the successful bidder for this requirement.

FAR CLAUSES AND PROVISIONS: The provision of FAR 52-212-1, Instruction to Offerors - Commercial Items applies to this acquisition. All offerors are required to submit a completed copy of FAR 52.212-3 – Offeror Representations and Certifications – Commercial Items, prior to an award. Telegraphic or facsimile offers are not acceptable. The provision of FAR 52.212-2, Evaluation - Commercial Items, applies to this acquisition. Any resulting award will be issued to the bidder offering the best value to the Government. Factors to be considered are technical capability and price with technical capabilities being significantly more important than price. Failure to provide the information relative to each evaluation factor may render offeror non-responsive.

1) **TECHNICAL CAPABILITY:** Evaluation of technical capability and ability to meet the evaluation factors will be based on product literature (if any), technical features and/or warranty provisions. Each offeror is required to submit descriptive literature (if any), or other documentation, to show how the offered service meets or exceeds the specified aforementioned minimum procurement requirements.

2) Evaluation will be based on best value including cost and ability to meet stated minimum procurement requirements. Offerors must submit descriptive literature (if any) detailing features and technical capabilities. The full text of these clauses may be accessed electronically at this address: <http://www.arnet.gov/far/>. Offerors shall include a complete copy of the provision at FAR 52.212-3, Offeror/Representation and Certifications-Commercial Items. The following FAR clauses cited in 52.212-5 are applicable to this acquisition for supplies: 52.203-6, Restrictions on Subcontractor Sales to the Government (JUL 1995); 52.216-18 Ordering; 52.216-19 52.217-5, Evaluation of Options (JUL 1990); 52.217-6, Option for Increased Quantity; 52.217-8, Option to Extend the Services (Nov 1999); 52.217-9 Option to Extend the Term of the Contract (Mar 2000); 52.222-21, Prohibition of Segregated Facilities (FEB 1999); 52.222-26, Equal Opportunity (APR 1984); 52.222-35,

Affirmative Action for Disabled Veterans and Vietnam Era Veterans (APR 1998); 52.222-36, Affirmative Action for Workers with Disabilities (JUN 1998); 52.222-37, Employment Reports on Disabled Veterans and Veterans of the Vietnam Era (JAN 1999); 52.225-3, Buy American Act Supplies (JAN 1994); 52.225-13 Restrictions on certain Foreign Purchases (FEB 2000); 52.225-21, Buy American Act North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act Balance of Payments Program (JAN 1997); 52.232-33, Payment by Electronic Funds Transfer Central Contractor Registration (May 1999); 52.232-36, Payment by Third Party; 52.239-1, Privacy or Security Safeguards (AUG 1996). OFFER DUE DATE: April 22, 2003 4:00 pm, EDT. ALL INTERESTED PARTIES SHALL SUBMIT OFFERS WITH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: Federal Tax Identification (TIN); Dun & Bradstreet Number (DUNS); remit to address if different. As of 31 May 1999 all Contractors must be registered in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) Database as a condition for contract award. Contractors may register in the CCR through the World Wide Web at <http://www.ccr.gov>, or call the DOD Electronic Information Center at 1-800-334-3414.